

The embodiments of the invention in which an exclusive property or privilege is claimed are defined as follows:

1. A package, comprising:
a first web defining a cavity; and
a second web bonded to the first web, wherein the second web includes microperforations at predetermined locations.
2. The package of Claim 1, wherein the microperforations are located at a substantially horizontal portion of the second web and adjacent to a first web recess in communication with the cavity.
3. The package of Claim 2, wherein the first web includes a flange to connect said recess to the cavity.
4. The package of Claim 3, wherein the flange defines a communication from the cavity to the recess.
5. The package of Claim 4, wherein the communication defines serrations on the flange.
6. The package of Claim 5, including a nonperforated area of the second web adjacent to the recess of the first web.
7. A method of exchanging the gas of a controlled atmosphere package with air by including microperforations in a web.
8. The method of Claim 7, wherein the exchange of gas raises the oxygen concentration of the package from less than or about 0.05% to greater than or about 3% within about 15 minutes.
9. The method of Claim 7, wherein the exchange of gas raises the oxygen concentration of the package from less than or about 0.05% to greater than or about 10% within about 10 minutes.

10. The method of Claim 7, wherein the package is assembled from a tray web having a cavity and flaps, wherein at least one flap includes a recess formed from the outwardly facing side.

11. The method of Claim 10, wherein gas exchange occurs through a communication between the cavity and the flap recess, wherein the communication includes serrations.

12. A method of reducing liquid weep from packages using microperforated lidding webs by locating a section of nonperforated lidding web adjacent to a recess.

13. The method of Claim 12, wherein the package is formed from a tray web having a cavity and flaps, and wherein at least one flap includes a recess formed from the outwardly facing side.

14. A method of bonding a stretched lidding web to a tray web with flaps, wherein the lidding web is bonded to the flaps in a substantially horizontal position.

15. The method of Claim 14, further comprising folding and bonding the flaps to the tray web.

16. A method of bonding a stretched lidding web to a tray web having at least a first and second flap, wherein the first flap is bonded to the tray before the lidding web is bonded to the second flap, and wherein the second flap is in a substantially horizontal position.

17. The method of Claim 16, further comprising folding and bonding the second flap to the tray web.

18. A method for trimming lidding web from a tray web, wherein the tray web includes a recess allowing clearance for a trimming device.

19. A tray, comprising:

a web forming a cavity, wherein a recess is formed on a portion of the web to create a gap clearance when a first and second web abuts or is in close proximity to the first web.

20. A method for preventing a contaminant from blocking a bonding surface of a tray web by covering the bonding surface with a guard.

21. The method of Claim 20, further comprising covering a top and side portion of the tray web.

22. The method of Claim 20, wherein the tray web comprises flaps, wherein the flaps are contained within the guard.

23. The method of Claim 22, wherein the flaps are bonded to the tray web.

24. The method of Claim 23, wherein the flaps are debonded and substantially horizontal when bonding a lidding web to the tray web.

25. The method of Claim 24, further comprising a second bonding of the flaps to the tray web.

26. The method of Claim 20, further comprising loading a food item with the guard in place.

27. A guard for covering a tray web defining a flange and cavity, comprising:
a guard body having walls to contain a tray web therein, with a body portion covering the tray flange; and
an opening giving access for loading the tray cavity.

28. The guard of Claim 27, further comprising a lip extending partly into the tray cavity.